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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
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10/031,145

07/03/2002

Nicole Zitzmann

080618-0241

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22428 7590 04/17/2009
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EXAMINER

CRUZ, KATHRIEN ANN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1617

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/17/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/031,145 | Applicant(s) ZITZMANN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner KATHRIEN CRUZ | Art Unit 1617 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33,35 and 38-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33,35 and 38-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/04/2008</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 33, 35 and 38-40 are pending.

Priority

This application is a 371 of PCT/US00/21732 (dated 08/10/2000)

Action Summary

Claims 33, 35, 38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Zitzmann is withdrawn.

Claims 33, 35 and 38-40 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 7,256,005 is maintain.

Response to Arguments

Applicants argue that the one-way obviousness analysis used by the PTO in the double patenting rejection is an improper analysis under current circumstances. This argument has been fully considered but has not been found persuasive because both the instant application and the U.S. PATENT 7,256,005 (hereinafter '005) were filed on the same day (August 10, 2000). And since the '005 is now a patent without an obvious double patent being filed, an obvious double patent must be filed with the later filed or

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later patented application. Furthermore, it is deemed proper because it is the same composition used in the method of screening for an inhibitor of HCV p7 protein.

For the ease of the applicant the last office action is reproduce below.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

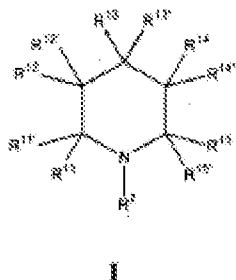
A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 33, 35 and 38-40 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 7,256,005 (where hereinafter referred to as '005).

'005 teaches

Claim 10 illustrates formula 1 as the following:



wherein each substituents R_{11} , $R_{11'}$, R_{12} , $R_{12'}$, R_{13} , $R_{13'}$, R_{14} , $R_{14'}$, R_{15} , $R_{15'}$ is selected, independently from each other, from a group consisting of -H; -OH; -F; -el; -Br; -I; -NH₂; alkyl- and dialkylamino; linear or branched C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl and alkynyl; aralkyl; linear or branched C₁₋₆ alkoxy; aryloxy; aralkoxy; - (alkyleneloxyl(alkyl)); -CN; -NO₂; -COOH, -COO(alkyl); -COO(aryl); -C(O)NH(C₁₋₆ alkyl); -C(O)NH(aryl); sulfonyl; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfonyl; arylsulfonyl; sulfamoyl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfamoyl; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)thio; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfonamide; arylsulfonamide; -NHNH₂; -NHOH; aryl; and heteroaryl, wherein each substituent may be the same or different.

R^2 and -R^{4-e} substituents selected independently of each other from a group consisting of linear C₇₋₁₈ alkyl, substituted C₁₋₁₈ alkyl, branched C₃₋₁₈ alkyl, C₂₋₁₈ alkenyl and alkynyl, and aralkyl; wherein each **linear C₇₋₈ alkyl**, branched C₃₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl and alkynyl, and aralkyl optionally may be substituted, and each substituted C₁₋₁₈ alkyl is substituted with one or more groups independently selected from a group consisting of -OH; -F; -Cl; -Br; -I; -NH₂; alkyl- and dialkylamino; linear or **branched C₁₋₆ alkyl**, C₂₋₆ alkenyl and alkynyl; aralkyl; linear or branched C₁₋₆ alkoxy, aryloxy; aralkoxy; -CN, -NO₂, -COOH, -COO(alkyl); -COO(aryl); -C(O)NH(C₁₋₆ alkyl); -C(O)NH(aryl); sulfonyl; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfonyl; arylsulfonyl; sulfamoyl, (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfamoyl; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)thio; (C₁₋₆ alkyl)sulfonamide; arylsulfonamide; -NHNH₂; and -NHOH.

As such, the claims of the instant Application and the patented claims would have been obvious variations of the other to one of ordinary skill in the art because '005 patent encompasses the compounds in instant claims 38-40 because of formula 1 of the patent disclose the base structure with the appropriate hydroxyl groups in the R₁₂₋₁₄ and a methyl in the R₁₅ position.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Claims 33, 35 and 38-40 are rejected.

No claims allowed.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KATHRIEN CRUZ whose telephone number is (571)270-5238. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 7:00am - 5:00pm with every Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on (571) 272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KATHRIEN CRUZ/
Examiner, Art Unit 1617

/San-ming Hui/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1617